Dep. Dir. I&C Inquiries

DIAI 24-2A

INFORMATION SCIENCE IN SUPPORT OF INTELLIGENCE FUNCTIONS
(INFORMATION SCIENCE CENTER) (13 WEEKS)

Background

The Information Science Center was established by the Director, DIA, at the request of the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) to present courses of instruction applying information science techniques to the solution of problems facing the intelligence community. The Center is to serve all elements of the intelligence community. This enclosure announces the first pilot course to be presented at the Center and requests nominations of students. Because this is the pilot presentation of a course of instruction in a field which has not been offered to the intelligence community before, it is important that students selected be intelligence analysts who are inclined toward the use of new methods of operation, who can be objectively receptive to the material being presented, and willing to offer constructive criticism as to the content of the course.

Purpose

To expose intelligence analysts, engaged in producing functional intelligence, to an information science perspective of their work. Information science is the study of the properties of information; its sources, forms, flow, processing and use. It derives its techniques from several related disciplines including mathematics, physics, psychology, logic, computer sciences, library sciences, operations research and systems analysis. Through a non-technical, practical approach to these subjects at the Center, the exposure will enable intelligence analysts to recognize their work as a series of significantly different tasks, become aware of and develop proficiency in using suitable alternative means for accomplishing each task, and learn how to evaluate each means of performing each task, to evaluate work performance when a means for performing each task has been selected, and to determine optimum performance under specified circumstances.

Course Content

Through lectures by the ISC staff and guests selected for their expertise, laboratory sessions and case studies, the course will cover: how intelligence analysts obtain the information they work with; the nature of information; how information can be processed to obtain some information desired; the nature of communication; how desired information can be communicated; the nature of an information system; how an information system can be evaluated and improved; an examination of information systems available to intelligence analysts; an examination of information systems being developed; the nature of decisions and some means for intelligence analysts to evaluate their decision-making process and to determine how to improve it.

ENCLOSURE 9

Course Schedule

Class Number	Reporting Date	Starting Date	Closing Date
Pilot 1-70	2 February 1970	2 February 1970	27 Mar 1970
Pilot 2-70	Undetermined	Undetermined	Undetermined

(Note: As the experience gained with the first pilot course may indicate changes which should be made in the second pilot course, neither the convening date, nor the length of the second pilot course can now be determined.)

Student Quotas

	DIA	CIA	STATE	NSA	ARMY[1]	NAVY[1]	AIR FORCE[1]	MARINE CORPS[1]
Principal	6	6	2	2	1	1	1	1
Alternate	6	6	2	2	1	1	1	1

(Note 1: From non-DIA sources outside the Washington area.)

Criteria for Student Selection

Principal and alternate nominees must be career motivated intelligence officers and professional civilians in the mid-career range -- O-3/O-4 and GS-12/GS-13. Military nominees must be intelligence specialists. All must have substantial experience as intelligence analysts. Each principal and alternate nominee will be provided a pre-requisite study packet during the first week of November 1969. This study packet will require between 40 and 120 hours of self-study and must be completed prior to reporting to the school. It will consist of a first introduction to the following six information science-related subjects: theory of sets, symbolic logic, probability, statistics, computer science, operations research and systems analysis. Alternate nominees will be assigned to the first pilot course in the place of principal nominees who cannot finish the prerequisite study packet, or who drop out for other reasons. The remaining alternates will be considered by the Information Science Center as principal nominees for the second pilot course. A FINAL TOP SECRET security clearance and SI/SAO access certified, is required. Nominations must be made to arrive in DIA (DIAPL-5) by 20 October 1969.

Reporting Instructions

Students should report to the Registrar, Defense Intelligence School, U.S. Naval Station, Anacostia Annex (Bldg T-5), Washington, D.C., at 0800 on the reporting date.